

Y.M.C.A. Kamp Kanawana Broadcast -- Station C.F.C.F.

Thursday 8.30 P.M., June 26th 1941.

CHIEF:

The 48th season of Kamp Kanawana, the Montreal Y.M.C.A. Boys' camp situated in the Laurention Mountains opens Saturday June 28th. This evening there may be in the radio audience some parents who have not yet made plans for their sons' summer vacation. It may be that you have never visited a boys' camp and that you are not certain as to what your son may expect from a camping experience. Not many years ago boys went away to the North Country to "rough it" to throw off all the conventions known to youth in the City. You may wonder if camping has changed. You may likewise be asking is your son as safe at camp as in the city. Today it is a well known fact that boys are safer at a well organized camp than they are either at home in the city or away at a summer resort. At camp every activity is closely checked from a standpoint of safety. From a standpoint of health and accident the well supervised camp presents only a small fraction of the hazards boys face when under their own direction on the streets or at a private summer home. The reason of course for this is trained leadership, trained instructors, careful supervision and daily instruction. At Kanawana Qualified life guards not only supervise swimming periods but do a great deal toward helping campers take care of themselves in the water. Last season the Montreal Y.M.C.A. boys camp had a record year in swimming and life saving instruction. Ninety life saving awards both Royal Life Saving Society and Y.M.C.A. were won by Kanawana

campers. Included in the awards were Royal Life saving Silver Medallions, and Y.M.C.A. Senior awards. Camp does provide the ideal situation for boys to learn ~~on the water~~ this most popular and healthful skill. Directors of Kanawana insure good leadership in this phase of the camp program by requiring every counsellor to have a life saving certificate or be capable of passing the required test. These counsellors teach swimming to those who are beggining and assist those who seek to better their skill. ~~Our~~ Safety measures in the water are of vital importance in a camp program. Kamp Kanawana may well be proud of an efficiently organized system of patrolling. Ten qualified leaders patrol general swims and are well posted to meet any emergency in the water. Our desire to maintain a high standard of efficiency is your assurance of a safe holiday for your son. Last season the camp had a total of one hundred and three non-swimmers. Of this group fifty-five passed swimming tests, four completing the "cross the lake swim" before the camp closed.

ANNOUNCER: Mr. Langille if you are asked what important feature you would take into account if you were selecting a boys camp, what would be your answer?

CHIEF: Since I have already referred to the importance of safety I would answer your question by saying - Leadership would be my first concern. I personnaly would want to know the staff and counsellors conducting the camp, their training, experience and enthusiasm in counselling boys.

ANNOUNCER: I would like to ask, do most boys camps conduct a counsellors training course?

CHIEF: All progressive boys camps today give major attention to training counsellors for the great responsibility that is theirs. Kamp Kanawana has this year conducted a training course for the fifty-eight counsellors who have hopes of being selected for leadership at Kanawana.

ANNOUNCER: Mr. Langille, you mention training fifty-eight counsellors. Do you suggest that this large number of counsellors go to your camp?

CHIEF: Not all. Our Personell Committee of which Mr. J. W. Perks, Assistant Superintendent of the Protestant School Board is the chairman, selects forty five of the most promissing and experienced leaders. There are also a number selected as Assistant counselors. Our youngest group to receive leadership training are known as Counsellors in Training, and are selected from our most experienced campers. Of course it is the hope and ambition of each of these to become a counsellor after several years of experience and training. While initiative and self reliance on the part of counsellors is greatly encouraged, camp traditions do exert a tremendous influence on our camp counsellors. The Montreal Y.M.C.A. has been operating a boys camp for forty eight years and naturally over such a period of time traditions develop. Kanawana is proud of its traditions. Fathers coming to camp refer to the "good old days" at Kanawana. Their sons, either campers or counsellors, are just as proud of the camp traditions, and camps' spirit. What I am trying to say is much better expressed in a farewell letter written by two of our Junior counsellors last year. It reads:

"Farewell to the staff, counsellors, and campers, who, one and all, made our visit one to be remembered. Tomorrow we are leaving dear old Kanawana, leaving behind fond faces, but taking back with us memories that will be cherished and retained in our uppermost thoughts. Friendships formed in camp should always be.

The spirit, work and play of the camp is so blended that our stay at Kanawana has been extremely enjoyable, and always will be cherished.

Camp life here at this unique location, the whispering trees and lapping water ever aid the strengthening of spirit, mind and body, the theme of Kanawana life.

On parting we are taking with us the hope that some day we will return to tread the camping grounds once more and enter into its full life and happiness.

Until then we bid our fondest good-byes.

Dave & Don,

Junior Counsellors 1940

ANNOUNCER:

Well it certainly sounds as though ~~the past~~ ^{last} season ~~has~~ ^{was} been an enjoyable one at Kanawana. Would you care to express yourself regarding the indications of a successful season at Kanawana this year?

CHIEF:

Yes, most certainly. I feel quite optimistic about this season's camp. First of all our staff of sixty eight people has been carefully selected and are an outstanding group, each one experienced in camping and selected because of his genuine interest in boys. Secondly it is Kamp Kanawana's privilege this year to have thirty or more evacuees in camp; boys from England, Scotland and European countries. Kanawana has frequently been referred to as an international boy's camp.. The contribution to camp life made by other than Canadian boys at Kanawana has indeed been important throughout the history of the camp. Carpenters have been at work for the past two months and have been assisted lately by an advance party of fourteen counsellors in preparing the camp for the first group of approximately one hundred campers who come to camp this Saturday. ~~As for numbers,~~ ^{As for numbers,} registrations are thirty per cent higher at this date than they were at this time last year, however, registrations will definitely be restricted throughout the summer to prevent overcrowding. Parents considering sending their son to Kanawana should make reservation as early as possible so as not to be dissatisfied. Information concerning the camp can be secured and registrations made at any branch of the Y.M.C.A. or phone the Kanawana office at Ma. 8331.

ANNOUNCER: Thank you Mr. Langille, Ladies and Gentleman, tonight you have heard the chief and Director of Kamp Kanawana speak to us concerning the well-known and popular boys summer paradise - Kamp Kanawana. Fullest details will be gladly mailed to interested listeners by phoning Ma. 8331 or to any one of the various branches of the Y.M.C.A. Kamp Kanawana opens Saturday June 28th, and continues until August 23rd. Be sure your boy registers early and have him enjoy the vacation of vacations.